

**PATENT**

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March 5, 2002

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David J. Josephic R. No. 22,849

Date

**DIVISIONAL APPLICATION OF:**

Serial No: 09/651,776

Filed: August 30, 2000

Applicant: Richard F. Grossman

Title: SYNTHETIC POLYMER COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING  
ANTIBIOTICS AS ANTIDEGRADANTS

Art Unit: 1617

Examiner: Helen Nguyen

Atty Dkt: HLST-28

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

March 5, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, and 11, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 6, 7, and 12 as follows:

1. (AMENDED) A stabilized polyolefin polymer composition comprising  
a polyolefin polymer and a  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic in an amount to  
confer an antidegradant effectiveness upon said polymer.

3. (AMENDED) The composition of claim 1 wherein the antibiotic is present in  
an amount of from about 0.02 to about 5 parts and said polymer is present in an  
amount of about 100 parts.

6. (AMENDED) The composition of claim 1 wherein said  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic is  
selected from the group consisting of amoxicillin, latamoxef, cephamycin, and  
cefadroxil, and mixtures thereof.

7. (AMENDED) A method of improving the stability of a polyolefin polymer  
composition consisting essentially of  
adding a  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic to a polyolefin polymer in an  
amount to confer stability upon said polymer.

12. (AMENDED) The method of claim 7 wherein said  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of amoxicillin, latamoxef, cephameycin, and cefadroxil, and mixtures thereof.

Please add new claims 13-17 as follows:

13. (NEW) The composition of claim 1 wherein said polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene and polypropylene, and copolymers thereof.

14. (NEW) The composition of claim 13 wherein the  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of amoxicillin, latamoxef, cephameycin, and cefadroxil, and mixtures thereof.

15. (NEW) The composition of claim 13 wherein the antibiotic is present in an amount of from about 0.02 to about 5 parts and said polymer is present in an amount of about 100 parts.

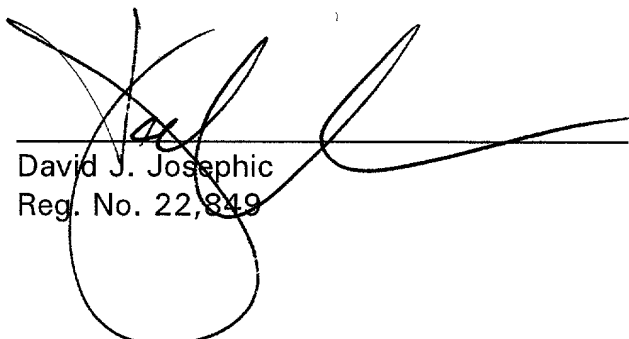
16. (NEW) The method of claim 12 wherein said polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene and polypropylene, and copolymers thereof.

17. (NEW) The method of claim 16 wherein the antibiotic is present in an amount of from about 0.02 to about 5 parts and said polymer is present in an amount of about 100 parts.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current preliminary amendment. The attached page is captioned **"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."**

Respectfully submitted,

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE IN THE CLAIMS**

Claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, and 11 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 7, and 12 have been amended as follows:

1. (AMENDED) A [synthetic] stabilized polyolefin polymer composition comprising

a [synthetic] polyolefin polymer and [an] a  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic in an amount to confer an antidegradant effectiveness upon said polymer.

3. (AMENDED) The composition of claim 1 wherein the antibiotic is present in an amount of from about 0.02 to about 5 parts and said polymer is present [is] in an amount of about 100 parts.

6. (AMENDED) The composition of claim [4] 1 wherein said  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of amoxicillin, latamoxef, cephamycin, and cefadroxil, and mixtures thereof.

7. (AMENDED) A method of improving the stability of a [synthetic] polyolefin polymer composition consisting essentially of

adding [an] a  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic to a [synthetic] polyolefin polymer in an amount to confer stability upon said polymer.

12. (AMENDED) The method of claim [10] 7 wherein said  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of amoxicillin, latamoxef, cephamycin, and cefadroxil, and mixtures thereof.

New claims 13-17 have been added as follows:

13. (NEW) The composition of claim 1 wherein said polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene and polypropylene, and copolymers thereof.

14. (NEW) The composition of claim 13 wherein the  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of amoxicillin, latamoxef, cephamycin, and cefadroxil, and mixtures thereof.

15. (NEW) The composition of claim 13 wherein the antibiotic is present in an amount of from about 0.02 to about 5 parts and said polymer is present in an amount of about 100 parts.

16. (NEW) The method of claim 12 wherein said polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene and polypropylene, and copolymers thereof.

17. (NEW) The method of claim 16 wherein the antibiotic is present in an amount of from about 0.02 to about 5 parts and said polymer is present in an amount of about 100 parts.